Reminder to Clubs: Nominated Photographer at Dogs West Sanctioned Events

Last year, Dogs West conducted a survey distributed to all Clubs and members to gather feedback regarding photography at sanctioned events.

The survey results highlighted the following key points:

- There was broad support for Clubs to nominate a photographer at events.
- The majority of respondents favoured maintaining the current Photography Regulation (A86), ensuring that members retain the right to take their own photographs.
- Feedback on formally defining a “nominated photographer” within the regulations was inconclusive.
- Comments provided varied but were consistent with the above themes.

Governing Council Resolution

In response to the survey results, the Dogs West Governing Council resolved at its meeting on 22 May 2024:

“That following inconclusive results of the recent survey regarding photography at events, the regulations are not to be amended.”
CARRIED

What This Means for Clubs:

While Regulation A86 will remain unchanged, Clubs **may continue to nominate a photographer** in their event schedules **provided this does not infringe on the rights outlined in A86.**

Regulation A86 – Photographs:

The taking of photographs and films of dogs, while being exhibited at Sanctioned Events, including Training and Seminars, is permitted. Photographs and films which include children are not to be uploaded onto social media without the permission of the parent or legal guardian. (07/15)

How to Nominate a Photographer

Clubs can include a nominated photographer in the event schedule or other official communications (e.g., Club Facebook page). Please ensure the photographer's role is clearly defined.

Example:

Nominated Photographer: S Smith. Podium photos for placegetters will be taken at [location] and by request on the day. For pre-bookings, contact: ssmithphotography@gmail.com or 0411 111 111.

Photographer Exclusivity

Clubs **cannot offer exclusivity** across the entire event. However, exclusive use of a designated photography area (e.g., a photo booth or marquee) is permitted. This should be clearly stated in the event schedule.

Tip: Signage can help manage the space and inform attendees. Dogs West encourages Clubs or nominated photographers to provide signs marking the exclusive area.

Promoting Photography Etiquette

To support positive experiences for all attendees, Clubs are encouraged to promote photography etiquette on their social media or at events. Suggested guidelines include:

- Be mindful of your surroundings and other photographers.
- Enter and exit the ring or photography space promptly.
- Be polite and patient if multiple photographers are present.
- Consider rotating between rings during busy periods.
- Always obtain permission from the Chief Steward before entering the ring.

All members are expected to uphold the Dogs West Code of Conduct and Good Sportsmanship standards. If any issues arise, please consult the Chief Steward on the day.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued commitment to running enjoyable and well-managed events.